

294

# TREASURY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON, D.C.

August 8, 1969



## FOR ALL NEWS MEDIA

A preview briefing and tour of the new United States Mint, Independence Mall, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, will be conducted by the Bureau of the Mint, on Wednesday, August 13, 1969, at 3:00 p.m.

(The Mint will open officially Thursday, August 14th, with a ceremony at 3:00 p.m. Treasury Secretary David Kennedy will be among the speakers.)

Background material and advance releases, for use in afternoon newspapers Thursday, August 14, 1969, will be available. The briefing tour will include the new coin rolling machine developed by the General Motors Corporation for the Treasury Department, Bureau of the Mint.

Press credentials will admit you to the building, located on the Mall at 5th and Arch Streets, Philadelphia.

For further information please call: Roy C. Cahoon, Bureau of the Mint, AC 202, WO 4-5011 or EX 3-6400 through Sunday, August 10, and AC 215-597-7350 August 11-16.

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295

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**WASHINGTON, D.C.**

August 8, 1969

FOR RELEASE IN SUNDAY NEWSPAPERS  
AUGUST 10, 1969

## **TREASURY SECRETARY KENNEDY TO OPEN NEW UNITED STATES MINT AT PHILADELPHIA**

Secretary of the Treasury David M. Kennedy will officially open the new United States Mint in Philadelphia at a public ceremony at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 14, 1969.

Other speakers at the Independence Mall ceremony, 5th and Arch Streets, will be Assistant Treasury Secretary Eugene T. Rossides, Mint Director Eva B. Adams, and the Mayor of Philadelphia, James H. J. Tate.

The new Mint will be opened to the public following the ceremony. A bronze medal commemorating the occasion will go on sale at the Mint.

The new Mint, expected to be in full operation during early 1970, is equipped with the world's most modern coin production equipment, including a coin roller with a production capacity of 10,000 coins per minute, as opposed to a maximum capacity of 600 coins per minute for current equipment.

For the first time in history, the mint equipment is arranged to provide for mechanized continuous flow through the coinage processes, from virgin metals to finished coins. This entire operation can be viewed from a glass-enclosed elevated gallery designed to accommodate 2,500 visitors an hour. A numismatic museum containing Mint mementoes, historic coins and medals, and a sales counter, is also available to the public.

Ground for the new Mint was broken on September 17, 1965, and the cornerstone was laid at a public ceremony on September 18, 1968. Total cost of the facility will amount to approximately \$39.4 million, including \$1.9 million for the land, \$18.6 million for the building, architect and engineering services, and \$18.9 million for the purchase and installation of equipment developed especially for the highly sophisticated manufacture of coins.

The Official Opening Medal, which will be added to the list of medals available for purchase from the Bureau of the Mint, will be sold in two sizes: 3 inch at \$3.00 and 1-5/16 inch, specially packaged for opening day, will be \$1.50. Both will be in bronze.

- 2 -

The obverse, or front, of the medal shows the main entrance of the Philadelphia Mint building - the lettering "United States Mint - Philadelphia - August 14, 1969 - Department of the Treasury."

The reverse side has a map of the United States with 17 stars denoting the location of mint institutions, past and present, superimposed over our national emblem, the eagle.

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